FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 JANUARY 1987

Afghanistan

A nationwide cease-fire will begin 15 January as the first and "most important" step toward peace and national reconciliation, PDPA General Secretary Najibullah announced in a 30 December speech to the PDPA Central Committee reported by BAKHTAR. However, he emphasized that a cease-fire does not depend on one side alone, adding that those who continue shooting will receive a "convincing" reply. He told the plenum that a cease-fire could be followed by new elections in which "outstanding opposition personalities who have joined the people's power" might be elected to the National People's Assembly.

The cease-fire offer was rejected by a mujahidin spokesman in Islamabad, who stated to AFP that the opposition will not be "misled by this trap" but will continue to fight for Najibullah's overthrow and for an Islamic government. As for the results of mujahidin military activity in 1986, AFP cited an Afghan Islamic Press Agency report that guerrillas shot down 206 planes and helicopters during the year, adding that their high success rate in recent months can be attributed to deliveries of U.S. Stinger and British Blowpipe missiles.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force began the new year with raids against various targets in western Iran including an oil field, a military airport at Masjed Solayman, and military targets in the Gilan-e Gharb area, according to a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. The communique also reported another "devastating" raid on Khark Island, and a military spokesman cited by INA announced that Iraqi planes hit a large maritime target off the Iranian coast 2 January.

An Iranian communique cited by IRNA acknowledged Iraqi raids on "farms and villages" in Gilan-e Gharb and accused the Iraqi Air Force of dropping chemical bombs along the western fronts 31 December. The agency said that around 400 Iranian troops afflicted by mustard gas and other chemicals were evacuated to hospitals in Bakhtaran.

Iran

The Hague Talks — An "informed" legal source cited by Tehran radio stated that U.S. Federal Reserve officials suspended talks in The Hague "without any reason or justification" save the "excuse" that they must consult U.S. authorities. Iran's position was "very strong," the source asserted, and the Federal Reserve had "no excuse" for not releasing Iran's assets.

Trade With Turkey — Iran and Turkey have agreed that around 6 million metric tons of Iranian oil will be exported to Turkey every year at official OPEC prices, Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh announced in remarks reported by Tehran radio following talks in Istanbul. Iran has also expressed readiness to supply all of Turkey's gas needs, he said. An IRNA report noted Aqazadeh's statement that the Iranian-Turkish oil talks will have a positive impact on strategic and political relations between the two countries.

Press Controls — The *Keyhan* and *Ettela'at* newspaper groups will be "directly supervised by Velayat-e Faqih," according to a 1 January *Keyhan* report cited by IRNA. Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni has approved a request in this regard from Guidance Minister Mohammad Khatami, IRNA added.

Saudi Arabia

Denial of Iranian Claim — An official source cited by SPA denied an Iranian radio report that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn met with Saudi Air Force officials and with U.S. pilots during his recent visit to the Kingdom. There was "no grain of truth" in the claim by Iran's "Voice of the Islamic Revolution," the source stated.

Budget — King Fahd approved the budget for the next fiscal year in a decree transmitted by SPA, noting that the forecast deficit of 52.7 billion Saudi riyals (SR) will be financed from the state's general reserves. A related communique by the Finance and National Economy Ministry linked the shortfall in state revenues with the reduction in oil export earnings, which have decreased by 80 percent from the 1981 level. The largest item in the planned expenditure of SR170 billion is SR60.7 billion allocated for the military and security sectors, according to the communique.

Libya-Chad

A communique broadcast by Ndjamena radio announced that Chadian Government troops inflicted heavy losses on Libyan forces during fighting in the suburbs of Zouar 31 December, claiming that 50 Libyans were killed and 2 T-55 tanks were destroyed. The radio reported that Libyan planes "savagely" bombed Zouar in the wake of the "crushing defeat" suffered by Libyan troops.

Fighting has also broken out between Libyan and Chadian forces on the outskirts of Fada, southeast of Faya Largeau, according to a 2 January AFP report from Ndjamena.

Sudan

Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid held talks with Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and other officials in Khartoum 31 December, SUNA reported, noting that talks were also held between the Egyptian chief of staff and the commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces.

On the military situation in the south, SUNA cited an announcement by Al-Mahdi that government troops have lifted the 23-month SPLA siege of Bor. The agency also noted reports

that 1,400 "outlaws" were killed or wounded during recent fighting in the Bor area.

Israel

Peretz Resignation — Interior Minister Yitzhaq Peretz informed the Knesset 31 December that he has decided to resign from the government because of his refusal to register a U.S. immigrant who was converted to Judaism by reformed rabbis, Jerusalem radio reported. Describing reformed conversion as a "bluff," Peretz said he will not register "phony converts" as Jews.

Security — Jerusalem radio reported that a 1 January bomb explosion in Kefar Sava caused no casualties. The PLO's Force 17 claimed responsibility for planting the device, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

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Najibullah Discusses Cease-Fire; Peace Plan

LD011958 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1130 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Kabul, 31 Dec (BAKHTAR) — Here follows a shortened version of the speech by General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib at the extraordinary plenum of the PDPA Central Committee (held on 30 December 1986), in connection with tasks related to the realization of the policy of national reconciliation: [passage omitted]

What are our reasons for putting forward the resolute policy of speeding up national reconciliation? First of all, there is our realization of the fact that the people are tired of prolonged warfare; they desire peace and the cessation of bloodshed. National reconciliation is today's destiny of the people. A new way of thinking — realistically national and democratic in content and in character — is necessary. The principles of reconciliation are simple and understandable to everyone:

Cease-fire;

Refraining from resorting to armed struggle and bloodshed in resolving the Afghan question now and in the future;

The maintenance of just representation in the political structure and economic life;

General amnesty and refraining from prosecution because of past political activity;

The protection and consolidation of national historical and cultural traditions;

Respect for and observance of the sacred religion of Islam.

What are the aims of reconciliation? They are, most importantly, peace and security, the future development of the gains of the revolution, the complete implementation of the PDPA Action Program; the maintenance of the independent democratic and progressive development of Afghanistan, the creation of lasting stability in Afghanistan, and the consolidation of a regime friendly with the Soviet Union. A political solution to this question can only be achieved through national reconciliation, which is being pursued simultaneously both internally and externally.

As regards internal policy: We should be open and bold in establishing contacts with gangs and with neutral people. We have rich experience in this respect. At the present time 417 armed opposition groups, 37,000 people, are in negotiation with the organs of people's sovereignty. This year [21 March 1986-20 March 1987] some 8,000 people have joined the DRA state. In the present conditions this direction of struggle takes on a particularly effective character. In the future it will be necessary to pay increasing attention to this direction.

I would like to remind those who have not realized the necessity of dialogue with us or who refrain from dialogue of a saying: Do not cut the hand that is extended to you.

We should also recruit the elders of tribes and credible local personalities in tribal areas and also in Nurestan and Hazarajat into cooperation with people's sovereignty. We should focus attention on the passive and neutral elements of the armed gangs and use organizational measures, up to and including the creation of local administration run by them, for the purpose of maintaining contact with them. We should make contact with those ranks that are tired, to whom the slogans of victory of counterrevolutionary organizations have lost meaning, and who have realized the futility of the war.

It is necessary to resolutely begin talking with opposing political forces which are ready to compromise with people's power. It is necessary to establish active links with the outstanding personalities of the past regime and also with the Islamic parties that are inclined to pursue an independent policy. The creation of a government of national unity with the participation of the aforementioned groups is feasible at the present stage.

We should finalize the compromise with other political organizations that are in agreement with us concerning the process of reconciliation.

Our party and state are concerned that thousands of Afghans are still living in poverty and deprivation. Most Afghans have gone over to the enemy through deception and trickery in order to be blindly exploited for the enemy's selfish aims, looting, and plundering. With regard to the refugees, we invite them to return to their homeland and engage in the construction of a new life in the country. An immigration affairs administration will be created within the framework of the Council of Ministers. Special social and economic programs and the creation of many places of employment and accommodation for the returnees have been organized.

We cannot exclude various political groups, moderates, and monarchists, and the leaders of armed antistate groups who are active abroad, from the process of national reconciliation. I spoke above about the creation of a national unity coalition government.

Work in connection with the reconciliation could be linked to a general referendum on a draft constitution; representatives of the opposing side should be able to put forward their proposals, too, in this regard. The election of local organs which will provide conditions for the election of opposition representatives to the assemblies could be made into an important instrument of compromise.

It would be logical for the elections to the National People's Assembly to be held after the cease-fire. Thus, it would be possible to elect the most outstanding opposition personalities who have joined the people's power to that lofty organ of state sovereignty.

In order to prevent new discord and in affirmation of our readiness for compromise, we believe that we might be able to express readiness for a general amnesty of prisoners, who refrain sincerely from hostility against the revolution, in accordance with the persistent proposals and request of Afghans.

Concerning the mechanism of reconciliation: Reconciliation commissions will be the fundamental organs of work. Credible personalities, elders, ulema and religious leaders, social personalities, and representatives of party and state organizations, as well as neutral and opposition personalities, will be included in the composition of these commissions. They will be led by the chairmen of the councils of the National Fatherland Front or

other personalities acceptable by and credible to all. Their work should be regarded as vital and they should meet daily. We envisage that the commissions will assess a great number of specific subjects with operational aspects.

The extraordinary commissions will form and convene peace assemblies for resolving this major issue, the achievement of reconciliation. The assemblies could meet several times until protocols of reconciliation are approved. Then the protocols will be handed to the provincial extraordinary commission for approval. At that stage the protocols would become legal. If the protocols are not approved by the commission it will be necessary to reconvene the assembly. Once again I would like to say that broad authorities have been vested in the extraordinary commissions and the peace assemblies. Details concerning the aforementioned authorities will be stated in a Revolutionary Council announcement. It should be stated that, in the final phase, it is envisaged that a national peace assembly will be convened.

I would like to pause on three principled points: First, national reconciliation begins with a cease-fire. Cease-fire on the national level will begin on 25 Jadi [15 January 1987]. Thus, what ought to be carried out by the state power, should be implemented.

Cease-fire, however, does not depend on one side alone, but on both sides. Those who were shooting at us yesterday must know that we have not ceased fire to facilitate bloodshed and fratricide for others. Those who continue shooting will receive a reply, and that reply will be convincing. Meanwhile, it is necessry to consider that the situation varies from region to region. It may not be possible to have a cease-fire everywhere at the same time. However, efforts should be made to this end in all regions. Efforts by party and state organs and by the commands of units and companies are necessary to ensure that the cease-fire is reliable and lasting and thus provide conditions for dialogue with the opposition.

Second, a cease-fire is not yet peace. This is the most important step toward peace, but it is the first step. What is necessary for peace is general agreement among the people on the question of how a just and fair administration should be organized in our common and united homeland, Afghanistan.

In order not to give those people the opportunity to seek vain and senseless pretexts to foil the talks and seek fratricide and to fan the flames, we are ready and prepared to provide genuine social, political, and economic sphere opportunities for every opposing force so that they can develop themselves and their interests on the basis of a peaceful life and cooperation. This is our policy. Only this policy can provide the possibility of establishing a permanent cease-fire and a lasting and necessary peace for everybody.

Third, the aim that we are putting forward is very obvious: It is that the status of a nonaligned, neutral, and independent state to be guaranteed for Afghanistan. That is the basic meaning and we are confident that what is being proposed by us is in accordance with the demands and opinions of all Afghans and the representatives of the nonrevolutionary side and our compatriots abroad. Thus, we share a common aim: to achieve peace and not to escalate war. [passage omitted]

'Rebels' Term Cease-Fire 'Trap'

NC011845 Paris AFP in English 1844 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 1 (AFP) — Afghan rebels fighting the seven-year-old Soviet-backed regime in Kabul on Thursday immediately rejected a ceasefire offer by the government, describing it as a "trap". Mohammad Nabi Mohammadi, the head of the rebel group Harakat-e Enqelabi Islami and the guerrillas' spokesman, told *Agence France-Presse* by telephone that the mujahidin rebels would not be "misled by this trap." "We will continue to fight until Najibullah is thrown out and a complete Islamic government is established in Moslem Afghanistan," he said.

Radio Kabul, monitored here, said Afghan Communist Party leader Najibullah, in proclaiming a unilateral ceasefire at the party's extraordinary plenum, hoped that the rebels would also reciprocate. But he warned that the ceasefire, which would start from January 15, did not mean that the troops would not reply to attacks.

Officials Send Congratulations to Havana

LD010650 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul, December 31, BAKHTAR — Najib, general secretary of the PDPA CC, Haji Mohammad Chamkani, acting president of the Revolutionary Council, and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the DRA, have sent a congratulatory message to Havana addressed to Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of State Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba on the occasion of the 28th anniversary of the victory of the revolution of Cuba and its independence day.

The message expresses confidence that the existing friendly relations between the parties, governments, and the peoples of both countries based on the principle of revolutionary solidarity will be further consolidated for the cause of peace and social progress.

Minister-Adviser to Council of Ministers Appointed

LD011646 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Esteemed Namatullah Pazhwak, adviser to the Council of Ministers, has been appointed minister-adviser to the Council of Ministers, at a level above the first grade, according to a proposal by the Council of Ministers and which the DRA Presidium of the Revolutionary Council approved.

CIA, Pakistani Complicity Cited in Drug Smuggling

LD300152 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 28, BAKHTAR — Seventeen criminals belonging to Gulbuddin band active in the international smuggling of narcotics have been arrested by the security forces of the DRA. The smugglers in the close collusion with CIA and Pakistani intelligence service wanted to transfer an amount of 507 kilogram of hashish worth of ten million dollars from Kabul via Delhi to London. The narcotics were placed skillfully in the bottom of the boxes containing Afghan cereals for exportation abroad.

It was confessed during the investigations that the smugglers with the cooperation of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries, had imported the narcotics produced in the territory of Pakistan in to the DRA. It was planned to send the narcotics via the Pan Am Airlines to the Western markets with the cooperation of the embassies of Western countries in Kabul and through their contacts with the smuggling networks in Holland, West Germany, Turkey, and Iran.

A number of smugglers, who were disguised themselves under the mask of dried fruits exporters and traders in Afghanistan, were trying to show as if the narcotics smuggling is carrying out to Western markets through the DRA. Imagining that the security officials in Kabul international airport will be too busy, the smuggling of narcotics was planned at a time when an Afghan high-ranking party and state delegation was leaving for the Soviet Union. The name and the address of person to whom the narcotics was to be deliver in London have been disclosed during the investigation.

It is of utmost attention that the narcotics were placed in the boxes similar to those placed in American containers (Pacific International), discovered by Soviet customs officials which was to be shipped to the Western countries.

Political Observer Comments

LD310641 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0503 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 30, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: The confiscation of 507 kilograms of hashish valued at 10 million dollars in the international markets and the arrest of 17 criminals by the security forces of the DRA at Kabul international airport, have proved once again that the Afghan counter-revolution is the backbone of international narcotics smuggling.

During their interrogation of the arrested criminals, who introduced themselves as dried fruits traders, it was revealed that the entire plan of the international narcotics smuggling network was charted out in Holland, England, FRG, Turkey, and Iran with the initiative of the U.S. CIA.

The [as received] implicate the DRA in this scandal, the CIA despatched the narcotics from Pakistan to Afghanistan through the notorious narcotics smuggler Gulbuddin and with the close cooperation of the staff of the embassies of Western countries in Kabul to send it via Delhi to the Western markets by Pan American Airlines which is a partner in the international narcotics smuggling network. During the investigations the accused confessed that they were despatching narcotics via Pan Am only. They also added that this airline is the safest carrier of narcotics the world over.

This factor once again revealed the fact that international smugglers of narcotics under various names are busy in this lucrative business. The American administration provides them with extensive possibilities and has put Pan Am at the disposal of these criminals. On the other hand, the U.S. Administration, in order to throw dust in the eyes of the people of the world, has raised the hue and cry against the smuggling of narcotics.

The arrested ringleaders of the smugglers, during their investigation, have also confessed that Pakistan is the main depot of narcotics in this region. Bargaining for narcotics deals is in full swing in all bazaars of Pakistan. Large quantities of narcotics are sent from these bazaars to Western Europe. Higher authorities of the Pakistani regime are also linked with this illegal business.

The confiscation of the narcotics and arrest of the smugglers by the security forces of the DRA, have foiled the conspiracies of the CIA and its accomplices to defame the DRA, which is one of the staunchest campaigners against production and smuggling of narcotics. The confessions of the accused also revealed, that it is not Afghanistan, but the CIA, the Government of Pakistan, and the Afghan counter-revolutionary bands who are indulged in the shameful trade of the narcotics.

Pakistani Violation of Airspace Protested

LD301731 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] The charge d' affaires of the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Foreign Ministry at 1400 today, where the following points were made to him by the director of the First Political Department: At 0943 on 24 December a Pakistani aircraft flying at (?750km/hour) entered Afghan airspace at [words indistinct], and following its reconnaissance flight it left Afghan airspace at 0959.

The DRA Government condemns this aggressive action by the Pakistani Government and lodges a strong protest against the Pakistani Government. It demands that the Pakistani Government refrain from such aggressive actions, otherwise responsibility for their grave consequences will rest with the aggressive Pakistani Government.

In order to conceal such actions the Pakistani military authorities claim that on 18 December the Afghan Armed Forces trespassed in the Ali Mangal area at Kurram Agency. Following a full investigation, the DRA Government deems unfounded this claim by the Pakistani Government and resolutely rejects it. It demands that the Pakistani authorities cease such false allegations which result only in the aggravation of situations on the borders.

30-Member Rebel Group in Farah Lays Down Arms

LD020704 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 2 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul, January 1, BAKHTAR — With the announcement of national reconciliation in the DRA, the process of armed bands laying down their (?arms) and joining the side of the state has been accelerated.

A thirty-member group of the counter-revolutionary gang and its ringleader Mohammad Omar have laid down their arms in Sultan-e Bakwah of Farah Province of the DRA bordering Iran.

Repenting over their past subversive deeds, they pledged not to spare any efforts in ensuring nation-wide peace and cessation (?of bloodshed) and fratricide in the country.

Arms Seized From 'Criminal Band' Near Paghman

LD011845 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Our alert security forces, with an heroic attack on the hideout of the (Saysaf) criminal band, near Paghman, crushed a number of these murderers and siezed a large amount of arms and ammunition. A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that 16 surface-to-surface Chinese-made rockets, a rocket launcher, 6 light weapons, and 47 boxes of DShK and light machine gun ammunition are included in the siezed arms and ammunition.

During these operations a professional terrorist belonging to the criminal (Sayaf) band, was captured by the security forces and handed over to the country's revolutionary forces of law.

Rebel Party Said 'Under Seige' in Herat

NC011816 Paris AFP in English 1814 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 1 (AFP) — The Afghan rebel Jamiyat-e Eslami Party said Thursday that its troops were under siege by 4,000 Soviet-backed Afghan soldiers in the western half of the city of Herat, in the west of the country. One of the party's offices in Iran said it had received a report from Herat that the Afghan troops were backed by 600 vehicles, and that heavy fighting began December 24 and was continuing December 28, when the report was sent.

Sources close to the rebels and correspondents in the western Pakistani town of Peshawar Thursday also reported that rebels had attacked the 1,000-strong garrison at Barikot, in eastern Afghanistan, and that fighting had been taking place there since Saturday. There were no reliable reports on casualties in either of the two battles.

Meanwhile, the pro-rebel *Afghan Islamic Press* (AIP) said Thursday that guerrillas had shot down 206 government planes and helicopters during 1986. The agency said the figures had come from secret reports in Kabul. AIP, which is generally considered reliable, said the province of Nangarhar, close to the Pakistani border, had seen the highest number of rebel successes, with 33 aircraft shot down. Many were shot down in the last three months, when the rebels received deliveries of British blowpipe and U.S. Stinger missiles. The total included 36 planes and helicopters destroyed on the ground by mortar fire, mainly at the Bagram, Qandahar, Shindand, and Jalalabad airfields, respectively north-west, south, west, and east of Kabul, it said.

AIP said 139 Afghan and 48 Soviet pilots and co-pilots had been killed. Observers said rebels had downed far more aircraft in 1986 thanks to deliveries of modern missiles and lessons learned about government aircraft from captured planes and helicopters brought to Pakistan for study. Western diplomats said rebels were shooting down aircraft at a rate of one a day.

Another pro-guerrilla agency, the *Afghan Press Agency* (APA), said 167 government aircraft had been shot down, agreeing that March-April and the last three months had seen the highest numbers of downings. APA said 1,762 rebels and 2,145 civilians had been killed in 1986, compared to 2,152 and 5,829 in 1985. Western and Pakistani experts said the Afghan troops had lost 950 planes and helicopters since January 1980, many by accident.

The same sources said that since that time as many as 10,000 Soviet soldiers had been killed and 18,800 injured, putting Afghan Government losses at 30,000 dead and 62,000. [as received] The sources said 550 tanks, 900 troops carriers, and 5,000 assorted vehicles had been destroyed over the same period.

Mujahidin Continue To Battle Soviet-Kabul Forces

Attack Baghran Airbase; Kill 12

BK010816 Karachi Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] In Afghanistan, the freedom fighters are reported to have carried out an attack on the Soviet-Kabul airbase in Baghran. According to reports, the freedom fighters attacked the base with long-range rockets, damaging two aircraft of the Soviet-Kabul forces. Twelve Soviet-Kabul troops were also killed in the incident while the airbase and a barracks were badly damaged.

Capture 4 Bases in Paktia Province

BK010634 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say mujahidin have captured four Soviet-Kabul military bases in Paktia Province. During the attack, the mujahidin also killed several Soviet-Kabul troops and captured a number of other soldiers.

'Liberate' Large Area in Faryab

BK311320 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the freedom fighters have liberated a large area in Faryab Province after a (?week-long) fighting with Soviet-Kabul troops. Twenty-five Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and another 200 injured in the encounter. The

freedom fighters also seized a huge quantity of weapons from the Soviet-Kabul troops.

Repulse 'Major Attack' in Parwan

BK310938 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that mujahidin activities have been intensified in Parwan, Baghlan, Qandahar, and Herat Provinces. According to the reports, the mujahidin repulsed a major attack by Soviet-Kabul forces after 12 days of confrontation in Parwan on 23 December, damaging 12 tanks and killing many Soviet-Kabul soldiers.

The mujahidin attacked a military base in Baghlan Province on 16 December, shooting down two aircraft. In another operation, the mujahidin killed 40 Soviet-Kabul forces in Kapisa Province.

Destroy Installations Near Qandahar

BK301119 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have destroyed seven military installations of the Soviet-Kabul troops in the west of Qandahar City. All the personnel deployed in these installations were killed or injured.

In another encounter, three Soviet-Kabul troops were killed by the mujahidin in (Balijan) area.

'Overrun' 8 Army Posts in Konarha

BK300742 Hong Kong AFP in English 0724 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 30 (AFP) — Afghan rebels have claimed to have overrun eight military posts held by Soviet-Afghan troops around the strategic Barikowt cantonment in eastern Konarha Province, near the Pakistan border. A spokesman for the Hezb-e Eslami group of Moslem fundamentalists said Monday that "fierce fighting" erupted when 300 mujahidin, equipped with 8 M-12 and 82 mm guns, 107 mm rockets, mortars, and anti-aircraft battery, launched a big operation on Saturday marking the seventh anniversary of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. The rebel attack claimed "heavy casualties" the sources said. The rebels' claim could not be independently confirmed.

The cantonment, located about five kilometres (three miles) from the Pakistani border, had been the scene of repeated clashes between anti-Marxist rebels and the Soviet-Afghan forces in the past. It has now been reinforced by an army brigade, rebel sources reported. The area is important for both sides as it lies on the rebels' route from Pakistan.

According to the resistance group, several mujahidin were killed and wounded at the weekend while capturing the posts located in the mountains. The rebels were heading towards the main garrison, the spokesman said, adding that Soviet was planes were bombing nearby rebel positions.

Kill 150 Soviet-Kabul Troops

BK291117 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, about 150 Soviet-Kabul troops are said to have been killed in fighting with the mujahidin at (Turabara) in eastern part of the country. The fighting, which began about a week back, is reported to be still in progress.

Another report says that the mujahidin have damaged a Soviet-Kabul aircraft and two helicopters in an attack on Jalalabad Airport recently.

Singh, Gandhi Greet Castro on National Day

BK010440 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Jan 86

[Text] The president, Giani Zail Singh, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, have greeted the people of Cuba on the National Day of that country today. In separate messages to the president of Cuba, Dr Fidel Castro, they said the two countries have developed a tradition of close friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation over the years. They expressed the hope that the friendly relations between the two countries will be further strengthened.

Bhutanese Foreign Minister on 4-Day Visit

BK011629 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] The foreign minister of Bhutan, Mr Dawa Tsering, and the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, held wide-ranging discussions on bilateral and regional issues in New Delhi today. Mr Dawa Tsering, who arrived today in the capital on a 4-day visit, will also be meeting the external affairs minister, Mr Tiwari. The visiting minister is scheduled to attend the board meeting of the Chuukukha hydroelectric project, the largest Indo-Bhutanese venture. It will generate 336 megawatts of power on completion.

'Powerful' Bomb Kills 1, Injures 2 in Madras

BK010851 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] In Madras, a woman was killed and two others injured this morning when a powerful bomb exploded in the city. According to police, the explosion took place near the Triplicane police station. Details are awaited.

'Terrorist' Activity Kills 3 in Punjab

BK010317 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] In Punjab, three persons were killed and three injured in two separate incidents of terrorist activity yesterday evening. In Gurdaspur District, one engineer and his driver were shot dead and two junior engineers of the Punjab State Electricity Board were injured when some suspected terrorists fired at them near Batala. The victims were traveling in a jeep on duty when they were shot at. The district administration immediately clamped curfew on Batala town in view of the tension following the incident.

In Amritsar District some unidentified gunmen shot dead a shopkeeper and injured another person in Village Lurdi near Tarn Taran. The victims were sitting in the shop when they were attacked.

The Punjab governor, Mr Siddharta Shankar Ray, and the chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, have called upon the people of Punjab to rededicate themselves to the welfare and development of the state. In his new year message, Mr Ray urged the people to follow the teachings of Guru Govind Singh and work for the state's development. Mr Barnala asked the people, especially the youths, to commit themselves to love and tolerance. He expressed the hope that the new year would see an end to the agony in Punjab.

Further Report

BK011601 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] In Punjab, the situation in the curfew-bound town of Batala is reported to be peaceful but tense today. The curfew was imposed yesterday in view of the tension in the area following terrorist violence. An employee of the State Electricity Board was shot dead by two unidentified gunmen in a village under Dhariwal police station in Gurdaspur District this morning. In another incident, two newspaper hawkers were shot at and seriously injured by suspected terrorists at Raikot in Ludhiana District.

'Terrorists' Fail in Jail Escape in Punjab

BK020311 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 2 Jan 87

[Text] In Punjab, a major attempt of jailbreak in the high security jail at Nabha in Patiala District was foiled late last night by the alert Border Security Force [BSF] sentries. The director general of police, Mr Ribeiro, said in Chandigarh this morning that about eight dreaded terrorists, including Balvinder Singh, who were detailed in the jail, strangulated a warden to death with his turban. They took away the keys from the victim and came out of their cells. They later scaled the inner wall of the jail. At this stage, the BSF sentries challenged them and opened fire. Most of the escaping prisoners were said to have been seriously injured. Details are awaited.

Leaders Greet 'Arafat on PLO Anniversary
BK010436 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul-Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo have greeted Yasir 'Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, on the 22d anniversary of the Palestinian revolution. In his message the president reiterated Pakistan's continued support for the Palestinian people's just and supreme cause and for the struggle they have been waging to secure their right to self-determination and an independent state under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative organization, the PLO.

The prime minister in his message said the people of Pakistan have always considered the cause of their Palestinian brothers as their own. He expressed confidence that under the dynamic leadership of Yasir 'Arafat, the Palestinian people and their sole representative organization, the PLO, will realize the goal of establishing their own homeland.

Sind Cabinet Supports Chief Minister, Resigns
BK011725 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] A Sind cabinet meeting was held in Karachi today. Chief Minister Syed Ghaus Ali Shah presided over it. The cabinet members expressed full confidence in the chief minister and assured him of their full cooperation.

Later, all the members of the cabinet tendered their resignations to facilitate the formation of a new cabinet.

Ziaul Haq, Junejo Receive UAE Crown Prince
BK311658 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the United Arab Emirates Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan had a separate meeting with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi today. They discussed matters relating to bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest. Later, the distinguished visitor left Islamabad for home.

Junejo Speaks at Muslim League Anniversary
BK311208 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has reaffirmed his government's determination to establish true democracy in the country. The prime minister, who is the president of Pakistan's Muslim League, highlighted the role of the elected government in restoring democracy in the country while addressing a large gathering of party workers in Islamabad today on the occasion of the 81st founding day of the Muslim League. He recalled that they had participated in the elections to help in the restoration of democracy. He said this is an auspicious day because it coincides with the day when martial law was lifted last year. He said his government has restored full democratic rights to the people during this period and the government is functioning under the Constitution. He said the National Assembly is a sovereign body, the courts are free; the press is working freely.

Referring to the talk in certain quarters about mid term polls, the prime minister posed a question as to what was the national problem for which a fresh mandate should be sought from the people. He reiterated that the elections will be held at the proper time.

Referring to his 5-point socioeconomic program, Mohammad Khan Junejo said its implementation will brighten the future of the country and it will be fully implemented.

On the housing programs of the elected government, Mohammad Khan Junejo said 15 lakh housing plots will be prepared in Punjab alone within 4 years under a 7-phase scheme. The governments of NWFP, Baluchistan, and Sind are also implementing this scheme on a priority basis.

About bribery and corruption, the prime minister assured that the government will take stringent action against corrupt officials after identifying them. In this connection he referred to the district-level committees set up to end corruption and bribery which include members from the national and provincial assemblies and the senate. The government has set up these committees to identify corrupt elements.

The prime minister said the basic work of reorganizing the party has already been done and elections for party officials will be held within 3 months. He also announced the formation of a foundation for helping poor and deserving party workers.

Junejo Inaugurates Maritime Security Agency
BK011141 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said he is fully satisfied with the country's defense and there is nothing to worry about. He was talking to newsmen after inaugurating the Maritime Security Agency in Karachi today. Asked whether changes in the adminsitrative set up are likely, he said the entire situation is being assessed following the recent incidents in Karachi. He said we are having detailed discussions with the Sind governor and the chief minister and there will be certain changes. About any change in the Sind cabinet the prime minister said this is for the chief minsiter to decide.

Earlier, inaugurating the Maritime Security Agency he reiterated his government's determination to fully exploit the country's land and food resources for national development. He said there are vast resources of food, energy, and valuable minerals under the sea which Pakistan needs to meet the requirements of the people. The prime minister said the Maritime Security Agency would also provide protection to the Pakistani fishermen in its territorial waters.

Government Protests Afghan-Soviet Shelling

BK311542 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text]Soviet-Kabul forces fired several mortar shells last Sunday [28 December] which fell in the Arandu area in Chitral District, injuring a Pakistani woman. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this evening and a strong protest was lodged over this unprovoked attack.

Meanwhile, Pakistan has rejected as baseless the Kabul administration's allegation that a Pakistani Air Force plane violated Afghan airspace in Spin Buldak area in Qandahar Province last Wednesday [24 December].

Karachi Administration Relaxes Curfew in 3 Areas

BK010231 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] The Karachi administration has announced a curfew relaxation from 0500 to 2200 [0000-1700 GMT] at night in Orangi, Orangi Extension, and Sohrab Goth areas. Meanwhile, the situation in the city remained normal yesterday and there has been no report of any adverse incident from anywhere.

THE PAKISTAN TIMES: Gorbachev Remarks in India

BK251331 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English
14 Dec 86 p 4

[Article by Zahur-ul-Haq: Mr Gorbachev's Faded Bouquet]

[Text] To Hindu India and its government, it was as important to get from Mr Gorbachev the right answers about Pakistan as to secure a heavy chunk of Soviet aid. With the first not forthcoming, the facility of repaying a billion dollar aid over a seventeen-year period at only 3 per cent interest was not half as consoling as an assistance package wrapped in threats to Pakistan might have been. Not all the brazen directness of the questions posed by Foreign Office-briefed Indian journalists could elicit from Mr Gorbachev a single word against China or Pakistan. This was shocking and astonishing to India's hawks.

It was suggested in this column before Mr Gorbachev's arrival in India that they would be wanting him to say things a la Khruschev, because the geo-political climate had not altered much with continuing Indo-Russian unfriendliness towards this country. Mr Gorbachev did not fall for the Indian line and displayed a temperament that may well be the keynote of his diplomatic postures. In Iceland where he met with President Reagan the Russian leader's approach was different from his predecessors'. It was said that his proposals for disarmament were downright [as published] and some headway was made in preparing ground for a later summit. Gorbachev's photographs that came from India showed him to be quite human. His relaxed look, perhaps, had something to do with his wife who accompanies him on his tours. If so, all credit to her for bringing about a change in the Russian leadership's appearance.

Which is not to say that the world can rely on appearances that can be deceptive, or that Gorbachev's diplomatic reserve, and a surprisingly sober reference to Pakistan does not deserve attention. To imperialist India's dismay, here was Russia's foremost leader equating Pakistan with India when he said Russia, India, and Pakistan were neighbours and must try to live in peace with each other. Nothing sends India into tantrums more than being put on the same level with Pakistan, and right now many microscopes there would be examining Gorbachev's statement to judge what exactly he meant. The latter's utterance, however, (made at his press conference) was neither equivocal or appeared to be so impromptu over such a vital policy matter; it came in response to a reporter's question, which was probably anticipated and the answer readied beforehand after full deliberation of his country's thinking, or new thinking, as the case may be. This is the obvious conclusion to be drawn.

To us in Pakistan, Mr Gorbachev's statement was a surprise too and, in view of Mr Gorbachev's presence in the area, significant. Mr Gorbachev had earlier spoken in Moscow to this effect that neither Russian troops could forever stay in Afghanistan nor would the Afghans those spoken by his predecessors. [sentence as published] Maybe Mr Gorbachev is more subtle and diplomatic than they and with an unusual show of cordiality towards Pakistan wants to drive a wedge between us and our friends. Maybe, again, he wants to play down the enormity of Russia's military aid package to India by presenting a faded bouquet to Pakistan.

Whatever the reason, he has landed himself in a commitment, such as Russia has seldom made to countries it does not favour. How far is he prepared to go? If Pakistan takes him up on his desire, voiced in Delhi, to visit this country, and extends him an invitation, will he come or start stalling like Rajiv Gandhi? If he comes, Pakistan would naturally expect him to give practical shape to his Delhi declaration. This should mean a just solution of the Afghan issue based on the UN Charter and UN Resolutions. This should mean an end to India's browbeating and blackmailing of Pakistan. This should mean a friendly and helpful Russia, recognising Pakistan's needs, its fears and apprehensions. For too long has Russia looked at the Sub-Continent with Indian eyes. Let the area, for a change, be looked at the way we see things.

As we see them, the main impediment to good neighbourly relations between Pakistan and India is of India's own making that is, arrogance and superiority vis-a-vis Pakistan, when neither attitude has a historic justification relating to the subcontinent's governance over twelve hundred years. If the position is defended on grounds of India's size and population, neither argument suffices against Israel's example. If greater military power is the reason, India is dependent for it on outside aid and strategies. What must count, finally, is how a country figures in the priorities and strategies of the aid giving countries or the two super powers. Geopolitically, both India and Pakistan are evenly placed — India because of its bigness, Pakistan, because of its location. If the beleaguered Afghans have not been conquered by a superpower in six years, how much more difficult for India to cow down a people whose ancestors have ruled over it for eleven centuries.

The whole world needs to know that India's self-imposed dislike of Pakistan is deliberate in order to justify the building up of a formidable war machine. The China factor in India's threat perception is purely imaginary, designed to deceive America and Russia in order to get help from both. It is elementary that no land war with China can be fought because of the big mountains, even if all of India's eight five divisions could be turned mountainous. In aerial warfare, more important Indian cities lie near China than Chinese cities near India. Mirage 2000's, Mig 29's and 31's, cannot hit big Chinese cities and return home. In the sea, until a powerful Chinese navy is developed (and this will take 10 to 20 years) no sea battles or defence of the Indian coast-line against a Chinese attack can be visualised.

India's 85 divisions and armour, 800 aircraft and a big navy are therefore, all piled up against Pakistan. An Armageddon is in the making. Does all this support Mr Gorbachev's professed desire for peace in the region?

SRI LANKA

Civil Security Ministry Establishes Councils

BK021037 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1007 GMT 2 Jan 86

["OANA/Pool" item — press review]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 02 (LANKA PUWATH) — The three Sri Lankan English dailies, *Daily News*, *The Island* and *Sun* reported that the newly formed Civil Security Ministry under President J.P. Jayewardene has set up district security councils except in the troubled northern and eastern provinces in an effort to create a greater security awareness in the country.

According to these reports, secretary to the ministry, Lionel Fernando, said at a press briefing in Colombo yesterday that the district security councils aimed at mobilising resources of voluntary and civil organisations to supplement the police and the forces.

Daily News in its lead story reported that a security alert has been sounded in the north yesterday following information that LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran is back in Jaffna after an absence of four years.

Daily News editorial titled "Shelter for the Homeless" said that the adoption of 1987 as the international year of shelter for the homeless represents one of the most crucial programmes launched to improve the quality of life among men, the quality of life throughout the world — especially among the poor.

The Island front page lead story reported the Chief of the Joint Operations Command General Cyril Ranatunge said that the decision by the LTTE terrorists to shelve their earlier plan to set up a civil administration secretariat and a police station in Jaffna averted a major offensive against the terrorists.

Sun front page news item under the heading "Quiet Start to 1987," said that except for one serious motor accident and a minor fire in a sales outlet, the city of Colombo witnessed a remarkably quiet dawn of 1987.

LTTE's Administration Plan Begins on 'Low Key'

BK011624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, a move by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, LTTE, to organize and coordinate a civil administration in the largely militant-controlled Jaffna peninsula started on a low-key today. Although the LTTE had announced earlier that it would from today organize the traffic police, a transport board, a network of magisterial and rural courts, a censor board, and tax and revenue collection machinery, only a few of these facilities appeared to have been set in motion. The LTTE itself reportedly clarified in Jaffna today they are not opening what they earlier called an Eelam Secretariat, but only an office to register people's complaints and coordinate civil activities.

The Sri Lanka national security minister told our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, that if the militants decided to have their own administration they are showing in most unmistakable terms they do not accept the peace process.

Army Helicopter Strafing Kills 2 Near Jaffna

BK020331 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Jan 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, two persons were killed and several injured when a Sri Lankan Army helicopter strafed areas near Jaffna last night. According to *Press Trust of India*, the strafing, which began in the evening at Tellippalai, (Kaduwan), and Koramba, continued till late last night.

Tamil Radio on Arrests in Tamil Nadu

BK011047 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Tamil Nadu police sources say that eight persons were arrested in connection with bomb explosions in Madurai and they have been imprisoned for 1 year under the Indian (?Anti-Rowdies) Law. It is reported that of these eight persons, three belong to the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam [DMK] and five to the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization [TELO]. The five TELO member — Chinnamuthu, Thari, Kuru, Suryan, and Ganesan — have been imprisoned for 1 year.

Meanwhile, it is to be noted that TELO leader Selvam and 50 other members have launched a fast unto death at Kodampakkam in Madras. So far, 125 TELO members have been arrested and placed in detention on charges of indulging in extremist activities during anti-Hindi agravation in Tamil Nadu and for abetting such activities. New Delhi sources say appeals to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi for their release have been rejected.

Militant Groups Urged To 'Dissolve', Join LTTE

BK241632 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1328 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Station Commentary: "A Look at the Eelam Organizations"]

[Text] The organization of the Liberation Tigers [of Tamil Eelam] is at the forefront in the struggle for a Tamil Eelam. It is also at the foremost place in the talks held by the Governments of India and Sri Lanka. The action taken by the LTTE on [word indistinct] and the support extended by the people of Tamil Eelam show that the LTTE has become a significant organization.

It is understood that the EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front] was determined to keep away from the talks when merger with EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students] was contemplated. The activities and the practices of the EPRLF are of a suspicious nature, and we have announced in previous broadcasts that this is the least trustworthy of the liberation organizations. They follow false Marxist ideologies.

They do not seem to fight wholeheartedly for the cause of the Tamils. They have a bourgeois mentality. Hence, they will not have the mind to work for an independent, socialist Tamil Eelam government. Therefore, we ask them to dissolve their organization and to give all their forces and other assets to the LTTE.

The PLOTE [People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam] members behave like cowards. They cower before the Sri Lankan Government for mercy. However, time is not yet up. They too can merge with the LTTE.

These organizations should agree on some accord. Moreover, they should appear to be united before the people of Tamil Eelam. This is essential. Otherwise, the people of Tamil Eelam will lose confidence in the struggle. Therefore, we request the leader of the LTTE, Velupillai Prabhakaran, to release a concrete statement about the future course of action. They, the people can review that statement and with the help of political experts they can express their opinion to the leaders.

People should know for what they struggle. Otherwise the revolution will not succeed. This is one of the basic principles of revolutionaries. We have, to a certain extent, neglected that principle in practice. People in Russia and China had suffered under the tyrannical rule of dictators. They fully realized that they wanted leaders other than kings or emperors. Besides, they also felt that they should liberate themselves permanently from the domination of Europe. In the same manner the valiant freedom fighters of Vietnam also did not want to be the slaves of the United States. The people of Cuba did not want the whites to purchase their beloved children. The Yugoslavian freedom fighters did not want to be the slaves of the United States or the Soviet Union after the Second World War.

These people's leaders established their nations according to the aspirations of their people. Whatever the condition in those countries now, they were founded with firm determination. But that determination is lacking in Tamil Eelam. The people should have a clearcut idea of for what goal we are fighting. We should know whether we can achieve that objective or goal through struggle or by peaceful means. We should also have a concrete idea whether we should accomplish it by rightful means or by conspiracy.

When we say the government of Tamil Eelam, these words overflow with the spirit of heroism. They exude feelings of heroism. But what do they really signify? We should analyze these words and define them. We should put life into them.

As far as the EPRLF is concerned it seems that they do not have the slightest bit of confidence. The EPRLF knows that it stands to gradually lose its hold in Tamil Eelam as the command of the LTTE builds up there.

In 1984, the Communist Party of Tamil Eelam was formed. At that time there was close congruity between our ideologies and the ideologies of the PLOTE and the EPRLF. For some time, we were interested in maintaining contacts with them. But we have lost our faith in them after they started espousing fake Marxist ideologies. We want to support those who do not follow fake, bogus ideologies. The EPRLF has fallen short of ideas. Therefore, they have started broadcasting in our frequencies. By making such broadcasts they are trying to cheat the people by giving an impression that we and they — the Communist Party of Tamil Eelam and the EPRLF — are one. But we know that the Tamil people are very intelligent. Moreover, we really wish that the organization leaders would treat the people with dignity.

Tamil Radio on LTTE Talks With Government

BK011127 [Clandestine] Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] The Indian Government is still waiting for reports from its own sources on the views exchanged at the secret talks held between the Sri Lankan Government delegation and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in Kankesanthurai. The Indian mediators are not in a position to understand what has been going on behind the scenes.

The skulking away of the Sri Lankan Government from the question of the Eastern Province raised at the talks held with the Indian mediators is clear only now. Making the Eastern Province (?a single unit) after deleting the majority Sinhalese area is one of the proposals made at the talks. The new step taken by a Sri Lankan minister to cause a split in the LTTE by holding talks with its local commanders who have the Jaffna area under their control at present, has also drawn the attention of Delhi. Reports reaching Delhi say that, right or wrong, the Sri Lankan Government is acting under the notion that there is a difference of opinion between the LTTE led by Prabhakaran in Madras and the Jaffna area commander, Kittu Krishnakumar.

It is difficult to say now whether the Sri Lankan Government is trying to cause a split between Prabhakaran and Kittu Krishnakumar of the LTTE, or if Kittu Krishakumar held talks with the Sri Lankan Government with the permission of Prabhakaran following the Tamil Nadu police action. However, the current situation has puzzled the Indian mediators who tried to manage the situation by saying that it is an internal Sri Lankan affair.

As far as the LTTE is concerned, these talks are beneficial for the LTTE since these talks indicate that the Sri Lankan Government has accepted them as the representatives of the Tamils. But it is wrong to think that India will recognize the LTTE as the sole representative of the people of Tamil Eelam, because they are trying to surge forward after eliminating other groups. If there is no split among the LTTE and if Kittu got the permission of Prabhakaran before the talks, it should have told the Indian mediators in confidence prior to the meeting [of the Jaffna LTTE] with the Sri Lankan Goverrnment representatives. As it was not done, the situation is confused.

'Terrorists' Captured by Civilians, Handed Over

BK021031 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0947 GMT 2 Jan 86

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 02 (LANKA PUWATH) — Two armed terrorists, Kumaranayagam alias Babu and Kandappa

Devarajah belonging to the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS) gang were captured by a group of Muslim residents at Varipathanchenai, in the Ampara District, eastern Sri Lanka yesterday, the Media Centre in Colombo told LANKA PUWATH. The two terrorists had come to hijack a motor cycle belonging to a Sinhala resident of the area.

The terrorists and their arms, one sub-machine gun, two grenades, twenty eight rounds of ammunition, one pouch, and a bottle of petrol were handed over to the security forces.

Seven terrorist suspects were detained by the security forces at Iruhayapura, Batticaloa in eastern Sri Lanka on Wednesday. Police are conducting investigations.

Meanwhile, a report from Jaffna in northern Sri Lanka states, that security forces discovered about 100 metres of wire in the Karainagar channel last Wednesday. The wire originated from the Kayts side of the channel. Security forces searched the whole channel belt but no mines were detected.

Security Forces Capture 5 'Terrorists'
BK010841 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0800 GMT 1 Jan 87

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 01 (LANKA PUWATH) — Five separatist terrorists were captured by the security forces at Vandaramoolai, Batticaloa, eastern Sri Lanka last Tuesday.

The Media Centre in Colombo told LANKA PUWATH that the terrorists belonged to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), Eelam Peoples Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) and the Peoples Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE).

'Terrorists' Shell Army Camp; Explode Mines
BK301107 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Armed terrorists attacked Velvettiturai Army Camp with mortars on Sunday [28 December]. Security sources said terrorists shelled the camp from a distance of about 300 yards. The army returned the fire.

Meanwhile, a soldier, who was guarding the (Panai) bridge, has also been shot at by the terrorists but the shot failed to hit the soldier. Terrorists also exploded a mine in the water close to the bridge with no damage caused to the bridge.

One soldier was killed during an encounter between terrorists and the security forces yesterday at Elephant Pass in Jaffna. Two other soldiers were also injured in this incident.

EPRLF Member Surrenders to Security Forces
BK281137 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] In the Batticaloa District, a security forces detachment patroling the railway track between Eravur and Devapuram last morning was attacked with grenades by terrorists hiding in a nearby jungle. The security forces returned fire killing one terrorist. Another terrorist was killed at Kurumunveli early last morning when the security forces opened fire on a group of terrorists who attacked them.

Naduraja Gunaratnam, a member of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front, EPRLF, surrendered to the security forces at Ambavallipuram in Trincomalee in eastern Sri Lanka last Wednesday [24 December]. The Media Center in Colombo told LANKA PUWATH that the police are questioning him.

Government troops destroyed a truck carrying fuel driven by separatist terrorists at (Wai) junction in Mullaittivu on Friday. The terrorists in the truck had attacked a security force's foot patrol using rocket-propelled gun [as heard], forcing the troops to return fire.

Tamils Reported Returning From India
BK281140 Hong Kong AFP in English 1110 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Colombo, Dec 28 (AFP) — Nearly 200 Tamil refugees have returned to Sri Lanka, while two Tamil separatists have been killed in fighting in the east of the country, official sources said here Sunday.

Official sources said a group of 124 refugees that had fled to India to escape Sri Lanka's Tamil separatist conflict had returned to Pesalai in the northwest of the country on Saturday and had been taken into custody by the navy.

The group comprised 54 men, 40 women, and 30 children.

The sources said the women and children would be released at once but that the men would be interrogated.

A second boatload of about 75 refugees arrived in the same area Sunday, the sources said.

An official spokesman said arrangements would be made to settle all the refugees at Pesalai.

Meanwhile in the eastern district of Batticaloa a security forces unit patrolling a railway track killed a separatist on Saturday after guerrillas attacked the patrol with grenades, sources said.

Another patrol in the district on Saturday killed another separatist after being attacked by guerrillas, sources said.

Musavi-Ardabili Leads Friday Prayer Sermons

LD021157 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 2 Jan 87

[Text] The Friday prayers rites were held throughout the country with the participation of Muslim compatriots today. Tehran University and the surrounding thoroughfares, too, today witnessed a vast congregation made up of various strata of the people attending the politico-religious Friday prayer ceremonies under the imamate of Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili.

In his second sermon, referring to the sinister polots hatched by world arrogance in Lebanon in order to sow discord among Lebanese Muslims, the president of the State Supreme Court asked: Why are those who claim to be fighting a war with Israel acting contrary to their words?! If they are telling the truth they should strive to destroy the roots of sedition and corruption in Lebanon instead of exacerbating divisive issues to foment clashes among Lebanese Muslims!

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili added: At a time when Lebanon is being consumed by the flames of discord, what could convening the Islamic summit conference in such a country as Kuwait mean?! The countries participating in this conference in the first place should extinguish the flames of discord in Lebanon and then set up the conference!

Tehran's ad interim Friday imam, emphasizing the need for guranteeing security for the venue of the Islamic summit conference, said: What the Islamic Republic of Iran is suggesting is that the venue of the Islamic summit conference should be a neutral country and not in Kuwait, the government of which is not neutral.

Referring to the fact that certain people are striving to portray Saddam at the Islamic summit as a "champion of peace!" Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili said: This is way out of Saddam's depth and this appelation does not become him.

Continuing his second sermon Tehran's ad interim Friday imam, referring to the Islamic Republic of Iran's successful effort at the recent OPEC conference to raise the price of oil and REUTER's report in this connection, said: This news agency has reported that whether one likes it or not, Iran is playing a guiding role in the Middle East.

In his second sermon, referring to the vast losses incurred as a result of the floods in the country's southern provinces, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili called on our compatriots to render their assistance in cash, as best they are able, in order to speed up the task of sending relief to the flood-stricken areas so the needs of these areas could be better and more speedily met.

He also called on officials in charge of relief headquarters to carefully plan and pay greater attention to a speedy distribution of the goods needed by our flood-stricken compatriots so that the required relief could be carried out in a more desirable manner.

IRNA Cited on 'Interrupted' Talks on Assets

LD011128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] According to an IRNA report, the talks in The Hague between representatives of the Central Bank of Iran and the U.S. Federal Reserve were halted suddenly by unilateral decision of the U.S. representatives.

An informed source at the office of International Legal Services described for IRNA the outcome of the recent talks between representatives of the central banks of Iran and the United States concerning the release of $500 million of Iran's assets. Referring to the background of this lawsuit, he said: The court ruling over the Iran-U.S. lawsuit, which was held in 1981-82, in accordance with the Algerian accord, ruled about 5 months ago that the remainder of the sums at the U.S. Federal Reserve, amounting to about $506 million dollars, belongs to Iran and should be returned.

Regarding the outcome of the second round of talks he said: Although the talks were held 4 months after the set date, Iran's position was very strong and the Federal Reserve had no excuse for not releasing Iran's assets; suddenly and without any reason or justification, in the middle of talks, they interrupted the talks with the excuse that they must consult U.S. authorities.

He pointed out: No doubt the Government and the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran will take the necessary steps to obtain Iran's rights. What the world mass media have reported about the connection between the recent talks and the sale of arms to Iran and other political aspects are seriously denied.

Sri Lanka's Ronald De Mel Continues Visit

Holds Talks With Energy Minister

LD311457 Tehran IRNA in English 1425 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 31, IRNA — Visiting Sri Lankan Minister of Finance and Planning Ronald de Mel met with Energy Minister Mohammad Taqi Banki here Wednesday. Joint Iran-Sri Lanka cooperation in the field of energy was among topics discussed at the meeting. Banki announced Iran's readiness to share in development plans and construction of dams in Sri Lanka.

De Mel, heading an economic delegation, arrived here on 28th September.

Discusses Relations With Musavi

LD011337 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] The minister of finance and planning of Sri Lanka met Prime Minister Musavi this morning. During the meeting, which was also attended by Commerce Minister Ja'fari, while describing Iran's foreign policies, regarding the expansion of relations with Third World countries, the prime minister stressed

the importance of expanding relations with Nonaligned Movement member countries.

Referring to the problems created by the usurping regime of Israel for Third World nations, he said: The nature of the Zionist regime is to create corruption in Third World countries. Its presence prevents the unification of Third World countries.

He stressed: The preservation of Sri Lanka's diplomatic, economic, and cultural interests depends on the expansion of relations between that country and the gigantic force of the Muslims in Islamic countries.

According to this report, the Sri Lankan finance and planning minister said: Sri Lanka considers the expansion of relations with Muslim countries and members of the Noaligned Movement to be in her interests.

Discusses Trade With Ja'fari

LD011638 Tehran IRNA in English 1518 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 1, IRNA — The Islamic Republic's foreign policy gives priority for promoting relations with Third World countries, said Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi to the visiting Sri Lankan Minister of Finance and Planning Ronald de Mel here Thursday. Underlining the importance for non-aligned states to expand their relations, the prime minister described the regime occupying Jerusalem as a major stumbling-block in the expansion of ties among Third World countries.

In response, De Mel reiterated that Sri Lanka deems it beneficial to promote ties with Muslim and non-aligned countries.

Meanwhile, in a separate meeting De Mel started his second round of talks with Iranian Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi Ja'fari Thursday. During the meeting, the two expressed satisfaction that their first round of talks had been fruitful and held in an atmosphere of understanding.

It was announced that Sri Lanka will increase its oil imports from Iran in the new Christian year (1987) as its tea exports to Iran have been gradually increasing each year since the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran in 1979. Exchange of goods between Tehran and Colombo other than the traditional ones was another topic discussed by De Mel and Ja'fari. Sri Lanka will cooperate with Iran in improving tea cultivation in the country. Sri Lankan delegates visited tea gardens in northern Iran and held talks with Iranian officials in this respect.

The Sri Lankan finance and planning minister, heading an economic delegation, arrived here December 28.

Besharati Says May 'Postpone' ICO Conference

LD011658 Tehran IRNA in English 1520 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 1, IRNA — Acting Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati said here Thursday that the Islamic Republic of Iran would send its highest level delegation to the upcoming meet of the Islamic Conference Organisation if the confab convened in a proper place (other than Kuwait).

Speaking to ambassadors and charge d'affaires of Islamic states to Iran, Besharati further stated that the Islamic Republic strongly believed that Kuwait was not a suitable venue for the ICO meet and that "to choose another venue which would provide us with security and peace of mind, we may postpone the conference for a few months."

ICO Secretary-General Sharifuddin Pirzada visited Tehran this week in a bid to convince Iran to send a high level delegation to the ICO conference due to be held in Kuwait in late January. During his short stay in Tehran, Pirzada met with Iran's president, Majlis speaker, prime minister, and foreign minister in which meetings he emphasized the "important role" the Islamic Republic could play in the upcoming ICO meet.

The Iranian [words indistinct] Kuwait was not a right venue for the ICO meet. The (?Kuwaiti) press, however, censored the news of Pirzada's meetings with the top ranking Iranian authorities. The Kuwaiti media had a brief reference to the ICO chief's meetings in Tehran without elaborating on the viewpoints of the Islamic Republic officials on the event.

Quoting President Khamene'i, the acting foreign minister told the Muslim envoys who gathered at the Foreign Ministry, that Iran would fully support the holding of a successful ICO summit provided that "the prerequisites of such a meeting would be at hand." Among these conditions, he said, would be the adoption of a just or at least impartial stance towards differences among member states.

Pointing to Kuwait's biased stance vis-a-vis the Islamic Republic and her support for the Iraqi regime, Besharati said by not criticizing the venue of the ICO summit until recently, Iran had provided an opportunity for Kuwait to adopt a just and unbiased stance. This self-restraint, he noted, was manifested under circumstances that the material and political support of Kuwait to Iraq had not been abated.

"We called on Kuwait to rectify its positions but two months ago this country along with some other pro-Iraq states made the UN Security Council take biased positions in support of Iraq," said Besharati, adding that "this self-restraint and suitable opportunity to reach an understanding for a successful summit was intentionally neglected by Kuwait."

The acting foreign minister added that a new initiative of detente in the region had been presented to the UN secretary-general which could undoubtedly create a favorable atmosphere of understanding and tranquility for the summit. But, he pointed out, despite its acceptance by some regional states, the Iranian initiative was deliberately ignored by Kuwait. Besharati also reiterated that the Islamic Republic had never obstructed the path for countries like Kuwait to rectify their misguided positions and return to justice. "We are confident that sooner or later, the countries supporting Iraq will realize that the region will have no peace and security so long as such an aggressive regime continues its existence in this part of the world."

Elsewhere in his remarks, Besharati warned that the overall situation in the region was not favorable despite Iran's relentless efforts to remove tension. "The Iraqi regime is voraciously seeking to expand the war to other parts of the region...this has recently gained more momentum by the recent Iraqi attack on Abu al-Bakhush in the UAE waters. No part of the region can therefore remain immune from similar attacks in the future."

"Kuwait in pursuing its policy of supporting Iraq, has either been forced to do so, which manifests its inability to at least provide suitable security arrangements for the summit, or has been willing to help Iraq which means it has breached and trampled principles of international norms. It is therefore unqualified to preside over the Islamic Conference for the next [word indistinct] years."

In conclusion of his remarks, Besharati stressed that preservation of unity must be regarded as the most important goal during the forthcoming summit. "We should not at any cost allow this unity be threatened by certain considerations relating to the multilateral relations among some countries."

Kuwait as Proposed ICO Venue Viewed

LD311654 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1100 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Unattributed political commentary: "Is Kuwait Suitable for the Islamic Countries' Conference?"]

[Text] Yesterday, ICO Secretary General Pirzada held talks with Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani and our country's prime minister about what he called: requesting Iran's serious participation in the forthcoming conference in Kuwait. He had previously met with President Khamene'i and Foreign Minister Velayati.

Since the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, our country has played an important role in international organizations, chiefly the ICO. Iran has always called on member countries to decisively deal with the problems of the Muslims and to confront aggressors. But, unfortunatley, the ICO has shown that so far it has been incapable of making any serious moves, and that it has turned into an ineffective, political-propaganda gathering which merely pursues goals in the interests of arrogance and reaction.

Except for a number of merely formal decisions about occupied Palestine or Jerusalem, which did not entail any practical measures to unite the member states, it has merely formed a committee called "Quds" and assigned its chairmanship to King Hassan, the Moroccan, a person who committed the biggest treason against Islamic, Arab, and Palestinian aims, by meeting the prime minister of the Zionist regime.

Not only was the stance toward Israel a mere formality, but, in the beginning so that it would not upset America, the conference remained quiet about the Iran-Iraq war. Later, without considering Iraq's act of aggression, it condemned the continuation of the war. This was when the deployment of chemical weapons by Iraq was being officially condemned in various resolutions and statements by the UN Security Council and when other crimes committed by the Baghdad regime were being disclosed and condemned in a round about way.

Now, the secretary general of this organization has come to Iran to ask our country to seriously take part in the forthcoming Islamic Conference in Kuwait, due to be held around the beginning of Bahman [month starting 21 January 1987]. The fact that Kuwait is hosting and will also chair the conference for the next few years, is the biggest reason for the ineffectiveness of this gathering and the absence of a serious and fundamental debate over the issues of the region and world Muslims by that organization.

Since the outset of the imposed war, by yielding to Saddam's extortions, the emirate of Kuwait has been one of the most important sources of assitance to the Iraqi regime. The ports of that country were placed at the disposal of Saddam's regime and Iraqi ships have carried their cargo under Kuwaiti flags. On top of that is the oil exploration in the neutral zone with the cooperation of Saudi Arabia and the crediting of revenues to the Iraqi regime's account. All this is nothing compared to the direct financial, propaganda, and diplomatic assistance given by the Kuwaiti emirate to the Iraqi regime.

On the other hand, the absence of Kuwait's military impartiality in a number of cases has been extremely obvious and impossible to overlook; examples of this are Bubiyan Island or Iraq's use of Kuwaiti airspace to upset the security of the Persian Gulf.

Because of this obvious absence of impartiality, which has time and again been boasted about by the leaders of Kuwait, could one expect an impartial conference to be held there? Also, Kuwait is incapable of creating suitable conditions for safeguarding the conference and its participants. This is because the Iraqi regime's security apparatus has been active in Kuwait for a long time and has even shown that they act beyond the interests of that country. Saddamite terrorism has shown its presence in Kuwait hundreds of times. To cooperate absolutely with the espionage and terrorist machinery of the Iraqi regime, the Kuwaiti Government has arrested combatants opposing the Iraqi regime — who had sought sanctuary in that country — and handed them over to Baghdad, or deported them, hundreds of times. These arrests took place in broad daylight and in full public view. For example, in 1979, an Iraqi scientist by the name of Abdul Mun'im (?Shuwqi), who opposed the Baghdad regime, was kidnapped in one of the central streets of the city, taken to the Iraqi Embassy, and taken to Baghdad from there. After a while he was executed.

Nine years before that, in a purge inside the party, Hardan Tikriti, who had become the first defense minister after the Ba'thist coup d'etat in July 1968 and who had read out the coup d'etat statement on the radio, was murdered in Kuwait. He, who after a while had some differences of opinion with the ruling Ba'thist clique and who was considered one of the opposition to Al-Bakr, had gone to Kuwait. The terrorists came out of the Iraqi Embassy, killed him, and returned to the embassy with ease and without arousing any reaction from the Kuwaiti police.

In 1981, when Iran's then foreign minister went to Kuwait, the car carrying him and his entourage was sprayed with bullets by

Iraqi agents; several people were injured. Some time later, the office of the shipping company of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait was set ablaze by Saddamite terrorists.

These are a number of examples of instances of Kuwaiti collaboration with Saddam's regime. It is obvious that the ground is very suitable for the activities of Saddamite terrorists in Kuwait, and that this murdering regime, which honors no laws or agreements, can disturb those taking part in the Islamic Conference.

The lack of impartiality by Kuwait in the war and the placing of Kuwaiti economic, diplomatic, propaganda, and more importantly, security facilities at the disposal of the Iraqi regime are extremely clear factors for not recognizing Kuwait as a suitable venue for the Islamic Conference. As the Majlis speaker said during his meeting with ICO Secretary General Pirzada, there is no difference between holding the conference in Kuwait and holding it in Basra.

Lebanese Clergyman Cited on Proposed Peace Plan

LD311631 Tehran IRNA in English 1517 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., Dec 31, IRNA — Refusal of certain Palestinian reactionaries to observe the Iranian-proposed peace plan for ending the camps-war in Lebanon is a sort of cooperation with the Zionists and the global arrogance, said the visiting chairman of Lebanese Shi'ite Muslims Assembly, Shaykh Mahdi Shams al-Din here Wednesday. Shaykh Shams al-Din who attended the recently concluded Conference on Iraqi People's Cooperation here added that Lebanese Muslims would continue to observe the Iranian-mediated cease-fire around the Palestinian refugee camps.

The Iranian mediation efforts in Lebanon are aimed at stopping the unwarranted bloodshed in Palestinian-Amal militia clashes, restoring security to Sidon and Maghdushah, lifting the siege of Al-Rashidiyah refugee camp, and cutting the criminal hands of the Zionist regime from that region.

Describing the recently-concluded Conference on Iraqi People's Cooperation in Tehran as an "important step" in further unifying revolutionary Iraqi forces, Shams al-Din said that the conference also created a political understanding among various Iraqi opposition groups fighting the Ba'thist regime in Baghdad. He also noted that Lebanese Muslims consider the founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeyni, as the leader of the whole Muslim world and regard Iran as a cradle of Islamic culture and a bastion for fighting the global arrogance.

Asked about degree of success the Islamic Republic achieved in resolving Lebanon's political crisis, Shams al-Din replied that the revolutionary nation and Government of Iran by financing several industrial and agricultural projects in Muslim-populated areas of Lebanon have markedly helped develop agriculture and industries in that country.

Indian Minister Interviewed on Cooperation

PM311429 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 21 Dec 86 p 18

[Exclusive interview with Indian Minister of State for Industrial Affairs Arunachalam by unidentified *Keyhan* economic correspondent; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] India's minister of state for industrial affairs, who was in Tehran at the head of an economic delegation, took part in an exclusive interview with *KEYHAN*'s economic correspondent to talk about his country's achievements in the rural, agricultural, and industrial fields. [passage omitted]

[Keyhan] The exchange of information and technical knowledge among Third World countries, especially Nonaligned Movement members, could lessen these countries' dependence on the superpowers. In your view, how can this cooperation be created and expanded?

[Arunachalam] Technical dependence among developing countries involves special issues. What we call technology and technical affairs do not only exist in advanced nations. We must be able to use this technology in accordance with our needs. Therefore, it is necessary for Third World nations to share any development they might have achieved in any particular area in order to gain mutual benefit. To expedite this important factor it is necessary to exchange information and to make it possible for others to gain new information. Representatives from one country must visit other nations and so on. It is also necessary to form joint commissions and other commissions to exchange expert and trained personnel. [passage omitted]

[Keyhan] At what level is India's advancement in the field of car manufacturing? What decisions have been made with regard to bilateral cooperation in this field?

[Arunachalam] In India we have reached self-sufficiency in the field of car manufacture. We even export some vehicles such as bicycles and automobiles. But, in the new Indian industrial plan we are planning to make cars more fuel-efficient. On the other hand, India is ready to cooperate with other countries in the industrial field for mutually beneficial purposes. We would like to share our industrial development program with Iran and we are ready to place our experiences and facilities at the disposal of Third World and developing nations.

India's industrial growth can provide more areas of cooperation with Iran and we are ready to exchange industrial technology with Iran. I must add that when we achieve our goals in our seventh economic-industrial plan, the cooperation between India and Iran in the industrial field will automatically increase. Therefore, I predict a very bright future for cooperation with the friendly Iranian nation in various areas such as exchanging technical information, creating joint projects, training personnel, and so on.

[Keyhan] How do you see the future of the fourth joint Indo-Iranian politico economic commission, which is due to be held in New Delhi next year?

[Arunachalam] The reason for our trip to Iran was to have preliminary negotiations for the February meeting. During this trip we defined some of the areas of cooperation with Iran such as the renovation of Iran's textile industries, the creation of a cement factory, the expansion of the transport field, the expansion of industries manufacturing road-building equipment, the provision of facilities for the training of technicians, and expansion in the fields of irrigation and electrical industries.

During this trip we had useful talks with Engineer Musavi, Minister of Heavy Industries Nabavi, and also Foreign Minister Dr Velayati, in addition to other officials in Iran's Ministry of Industries. We also discussed with Iranian officials plans for the creation of industrial projects in Third World countries. I hope these plans can be implemented. In any case, I believe next year's meeting will be very useful. I hope the continued dialogue will have beneficial results for both India and Iran.

Oil Minister Comments on Sales to Turkey

LD011226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Oil Minister Aqazadeh held a radio, television, and press conference this morning in which he talked about the results of his recent visit to Turkey and the export of oil and gas to that country.

At the beginning, the oil minister said: On the basis of an agreement we have with Turkey, 6 million metric tons of oil are to be exported to that country each year and this figure could be increased to 6.9 million metric tons. He added: However, due to changes in oil prices during the last year, the level of oil exports did not exceed 1.8 million metric tons. During the past 4 months, due to price disagreements, no oil was exported to Turkey.

The oil minister added: In a 2-hour long meeting with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, he referred to the role of Iran as the most important country in the region and added: Links with the Islamic Republic of Iran are one of the most necessary things. On the basis of agreements reached with him, it was decided that 6 million metric tons of oil plus or minus 15 percent should be exported to Turkey at the official OPEC price. We shall send four ships of oil to that country each month.

Concerning the price of oil Mr Aqazadeh said: We came to a very speedy agreement on this issue. The prices will be the same as the official OPEC price. We will change all our former agreements and the price bases will be changed to the official OPEC price. The price of oil sold will be deposited in dollars in an account in Bank-e Markazi. Our sales will be completely in cash and under no circumstances will we sell oil on the basis of credit.

Referring to the agreements reached on the export of gas, the oil minister said: We express our readiness to provide all of Turkey's gas needs. Turkey's total needs for future years will be conveyed to us so that we can start the export on the basis of agreements reached.

Concerning the export of gas to Europe the oil minister said: Two committees will be set up to study this matter. One committee will study marketing in Europe and will investigate the volume, quantity [as heard], and possibility of the export of Iranian gas to Europe. The other committee will determine the future prospects for gas during the next 20 years. Studies will be carried out by a firm of consultants to evaluate the prices, the replacement of gas for oil, and all scientific issues concerning gas, and the results of these studies will be announced.

Referring to the fact that in our view the export of gas should be economical, the oil minister said: The first report concerning gas was not accepted by Iran. A new proposal has been announced by Turkey which is being studied. The pipeline will be laid only when it is completely economical for us.

Referring to future positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran in future OPEC conferences, he said: The Islamic Republic believes in higher prices for oil. We will also try to consolidate the earlier prices and will act seriously and decisively toward those members who might violate these prices. By isolating Iraq even further we will try to force that country to accept OPEC decisions.

In conclusion, the oil minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran said: OPEC should seriously increase its strength by drawing in [jazb] other non-OPEC countries. If we could absorb these countries inside the OPEC it would be a great success.

Mojahedin-e Khalq Spokesman Cited on Operations

JN021013 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 2 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Jan (WAKH) — The Iranian opposition Mojahedin-e Khalq organization has said its military operations inside Iran will witness a wide development that will cover all of Iran with the beginning of the new year.

A press spokesman for the organization, who asked not to be named, told WAKH that the coming days will carry numerous reports confirming the organization's ability to reach any place in Iran. However, he declined to discuss details because they are sensitive and important. He said: The number of those working with us inside Iran increased several times during the second half of last year as compared to their number at the end of 1985.

Rajavi [the Mojahedin-e Khalq leader] transferred his headquarters from France to Iraq 6 months ago as part of a plan described by the press spokesman as coming in accordance with the requirements of militant action inside Iran. The spokesman disclosed that a large number of Army officers have joined the organization's ranks in the past few months. He said: These officers, all of whom were occupying posts in Iranian Army units, are now assuming field tasks within our organizations inside Iran. The spokesman, who was speaking in English, did not, however, touch on the nature of these tasks and only pointed out that the officers joining the organization gave it new strength and helped it expand its activity to an extent that forced the Iranian regime to seek the assistance of large numbers of its regular forces to monitor the organization's moves, as he put it.

Rajavi, who heads the National Council for Resistance, met with President Saddam Husayn following his arrival in Baghdad last June. He also visited the holy places in Karbala', Al-Najaf, and Al-Kazimiyah. Afterwards, he met with PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat and was not seen on any other occasion.

The spokesman said Rajavi spends most of his time with his forces which are now preparing for a new round of resistance. He neither confirmed nor denied whether this means that Rajavi is sometimes present inside Iranian territory. He said: Our forces move from one place to another as necessary. The press spokesman reiterated Mojahedin-e Khalq's refusal to contact or hold dialogue with other members of the Iranian opposition who are linked to the Iranian regime in any way. He said: We cannot make peace with this regime which betrayed the causes of a people, nor can we make peace with those collaborating with it. He reiterated that the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization does not work for regional aims but for all Iran and its peoples, and that organization will strongly continue to achieve its objective.

Captured Iraqi Pilot on Use of Kuwaiti Airspace

LD011248 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] An Iraqi pilot captured by the fighters of Islam after his aircraft was shot down during the operations to destroy Al-'Amyah terminal, today in a radio and television press conference described the way he was captured. After first expressing his thanks to the fighters of Islam and Iranian forces for their humane treatment of him, he said: I am 1st Lieutenant of the Air Force Husayn Muhammad Ahmad, from Abu-'Ubaydah Base in Iraq and the pilot of an F-1 Mirage. I graduated from the Air Force College in 1983 and then I went to France for 6 months. Later I started my work in Al-Walid Air Defense Center. Concerning his instructors, this captured pilot said: Our instructors in bases and in pilot training colleges are Russian, French, and Egyptian.

Confirming the use of Kuwait air space for air operations against the forces of Islam and Iraq's military use of Kuwaiti air space for operations, he said: The route followed by aircraft is as follows. They fly from Al-Shu'aybah Air Base in Iraq toward Umm Qasr. Then they fly toward Bubiyan Island belonging to Kuwait. From there they fly toward Al-'Amyah and Al-Bakr. In their missions they also make use of Kuwait's air space over the sea. The route for the bombing of the Siri Island was also the same and the refuelling in the air also took place near Kuwait's shores.

The captured Iraqi pilot said: On my mission on 17 September 1986 during which my aircraft was shot down and I was captured, I flew in the same manner from Al-Shu'aybah Air Base to Umm Qasr. Then I went to Bubiyan. I was flying toward Al-Bakr terminal when my plane was shot down by an Iranian aircraft and crashed in the Persian Gulf. After 1 and a half hours I was saved by the personnel from a civilian Iranian ship. From the very beginning they treated me very humanely and well.

RESALAT Editor Issues Complaint; Defends Paper

PM311109 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 18 Dec 86 p 2

[Report on 18 December open Majlis session by unidentified *Keyhan* correspondent]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Ahmad Azari Qomi, [managing editor of the newspaper *Resalat*] the Majlis deputy from Qom, was the first pre-agenda speaker at today's Majlis session. He said: These days two great victories have been bestowed upon the martyr-rearing people of Iran with the grace of the imam's leadership. One was the mourning in the Black House of the Great Satan and the other was the uncovering of the suspicious and far-reaching case of Seyyed Mehdi Hashemi and his widespread clique which unfortunately has spread its roots throughout the country. This resulted in the arrest of all the puppet deviants. [passage omitted]

What has happened recently, which has caused great sorrow and regret among the militant clergy who are the real supporters of the revolution, was that, on the pretext of supporting the imam, a certain kind of ideology has been defamed with labels such as "pro capitalist," "land-taker" and "hoarder." This is the kind of ideology that was supported for many years and continues to be supported by the imam and the leadership's successor as one embedded within the holy Islamic laws. Even worse than this, the newspaper *Resalat* was linked to this issue, albeit an innocent one, without any reason or proof.

If printing the laws of the Prophet's family — peace be upon them — is a deviation then priority must be given to instruments to crush this. If supporting Islamic ownership and other Islamic laws means support for capitalism, then the Prophet of Islam, Imam Sadeq, and the imam of the nation can all be considered supporters of capitalism. [passage omitted]

The deputy from Qom added: Those who have signed petitions and statements opposing Islamic laws are those responsible for this defamation. Those who claim to be neutral must come to help and defend the innocent; if not they share the guilt of those who signed the petitions and statements. Imam 'Ali — peace be upon him — said that if only one man was killed in the Jamal war he would have been dutybound to kill all those others who had remained silent. I think only a handful are responsible. They think that by putting labels on issues and making a noise they can isolate the president, the Majlis speaker, the militant clergy, the Council of Guardians, and the Society of Theologians and deprive the revolution of these people's support.

Azari Qomi added: I clearly announce that the Society of Theologians, the Militant Clergy, and the respected Council of Guardians are against Western-style opposition to an Islamic government that is backed by the imam, just as we denounce Western-style support, which the imam is also against.

If these people think they can boycott some of the imam's servants and sacrificers on the pretext of supporting the government, they are making a mistake. If you are telling the truth and if you support the imam, why is it that some of you are still trying to distort the case of Seyyed Mehdi Hashemi? Why did you not condemn this puppet and deviant group in a statement signed by

145 people? Why is it that in some parts of the country there are still those who say this issue is not important and give more prominence to another issue which is not as vital? Anyone in any post and in any dress who tries to hurt the revolution and the regime should be pursued. As God is my witness, if one day I am called upon by the judicial authorities and put on trial, I shall be very happy and death would be beautiful to me. [passage omitted]

He added: I feel that the continued enmity against *Resalat*, even before it was launched, is because the newspaper prints the truthful laws of Islam and also because of the elections for the third Majlis. You must be certain that this newspaper will continue its holy mission unless the will of the leader decides to close it down, in which case it would be closed down immediately — the same way we answered the imam's advice quickly.

The deputy from Qom added: Is it right for one Majlis deputy to call *Resalat* the newspaper of the dishonorables because the paper gave some brotherly advice? I now issue a formal complaint in this holy place and I ask the judicial authorities to pursue the matter if they see fit. I say to those people who have insulted me in statements and so on that I will not make them happy, especially those who have dragged this issue into the university at this time when it is the day of unity between the clergy and the universities. In fact they have completely separated the clergy from the universities. [passage omitted]

'Religious Jurisprudence' To Supervise Papers

LD012130 Tehran IRNA in English 1859 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 1, IRNA — *Keyhan* and *Ettela'at* groups of newspapers will be directly supervised by Velayat-e Faqih (religious jurisprudence), according to Thursday issue of the *Keyhan* daily. The approval of the issue by the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeyni, was announced by his son Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Khomeyni here Thursday.

The imam's approval came following a request by Ershad-e Islami (Islamic Guidance) Minister and head of the *Keyhan* Institute Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami and head of the *Ettela'at* Institute Hojjat ol-Eslam Do'aie [spelling as received], who had earlier won the backing of prime minister Hoseyn Musavi on the issue.

The two groups of newspapers were previously managed by the Mostazafan (Oppressed) Foundation, headed by the premier who himself had suggested that the two institutes be directly supervised by Velayat-e Faqih.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraq Deploys 'Chemical Bombs'

LD010705 Tehran IRNA in English 0700 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, Jan 1, IRNA — A large number of Muslim combatants were injured in the Iraqi deployment of chemical bombs on positions of the Muslim forces of Iran in Western fronts, Wednesday noon. As of Thursday morning some 400 of the Iranian forces afflicted by the toxic chemicals have been transferred to hospitals in Bakhtaran.

In the latest Iraqi chemical bombardment eight doctors and nurses stationed in the area to treat the Muslims forces have also been injured. According to experts Iraq has used mustard gas in this bombardment.

Further on Chemical Weapons' Use

LD020830 Tehran IRNA in English 0805 GMT 2 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 2, IRNA — A group of Iranian combatants suffering from chemical wounds are being treated in a number of Tehran hospitals. They are victims of renewed Iraqi use of internationally banned chemical weapons after Iran launched the successful 'Karbala-4' operation in the southern fronts Dec 24.

The geographical location and the date the Islamic combatants have been subjected to Iraq's toxic gases show that the desperate regime in Baghdad has employed chemical weapons in a large scale along the 1300 km war front over the past few days. The victims have been mostly exposed to materials dropped by enemy planes.

Ahmad Amiri, 43, from Tuysarkan, in Hamadan Province, has been injured in Abadan (Khuzestan Prov.) on Dec 26. He is suffering from eye injury and skin wounds.

Ali Varjanouni, 21, from Neishabour [name as received], Khorasan Province, is another victim of Iraqi chemical weapons being treated in Tehran. He says he has been exposed to bombs dropped by Iraqi planes in the western front of Sumar on Dec 30. Upon being exposed to these materials, he had begun to suffer great pain in respiratory organs.

Dr Abbas Keshavarz who is treating the chemically wounded combatants says the victims have been exposed to mustard gas and mycotoxin. He also says medical tests have shown that there are phosphorus derivatives such as phosgene in the blood of the wounded. Phosgene, he says, is a dangerous gas highly affecting the nerve system. Physicians previously treating chemical wounded Iranians also admitted that the victims had been exposed to mustard gas and mycotoxin. Over the past two years, Iran has sent a number of its chemically wounded combatants to European and Asian countries for further treatment.

International laws including the Geneva Convention strictly ban deployment of chemical weapons in the war. Iraq, which in many instances has resorted to these destructive weapons, is a signatory of the international regulations which prohibit use of chemicals.

The United Nations in November 1986 confirmed Iraqi use of chemical weapons and condemned the act. The UN statement did not explicitly refer to Iraq as the perpetrator of this inhuman move, but UN teams which inspected the Iraqi imposed war fronts, explicitly declared that Baghdad had resorted to chemical weapons against Iranian forces.

In 1984, Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar also despatched special envoys to Iran to investigate Iraqi deployment of

toxic gases. The result of the investigation disclosed by sources close to the UN chief, confirmed that Iraq had used chemical gases against Iran's Islamic combatants.

UN Fact-Finding Team Requested

LD012122 Tehran IRNA in English 1854 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 1, — Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations called on the UN Thursday to despatch a fact-finding team to the Islamic Republic to meet Iranian combatants wounded in Wednesday's Iraqi chemical bombing of parts of the Western fronts.

Iranian envoy Sayyed Rajaie'-Khorassani in a letter to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar informed him that Iraq had resorted to toxic gases against Iranian forces for the second time this week in what has become repeated violation of the 1925 Geneva protocol as well as other international laws, by the Iraqi Ba'thist regime.

The Iraqi regime had also resorted to this cowardly tactic earlier in the week on the southern fronts when its forces suffered a big set-back in the Karbala-4 infiltration operations launched by the Muslim combatants on Umm al-Rasas island in the Arvand River.

During the past few years three UN teams of experts, upon Iran's request, have inspected and confirmed the Iraqi use of chemical weapons against Muslim forces, which resulted in the denunciation of Iraqi use of toxic gases by the UN Security Council, in two separate resolutions released on April 25, 1985 and March 21, 1986.

The regretful silence of foreign governments to castigate the Iraqi deployment of nerve and mustard gases in the imposed-war, has been interpreted by the Ba'thist clique as a candid approval of its sordid crimes, encouraging it to repeat it time and again.

Navy Fails To Save Ship Hit by Iraqis

LD011214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Efforts by Iranian Navy personnel to prevent the ship *Ibn al-Baytar* from sinking were fruitless. The ship sank near Iranian shores yesterday. According to an IRNA report, the ship *Ibn al-Baytar* was hit by Iraqi warplanes on 23 December 1986 and was severely damaged. It should be pointed out that the ship had been seized by Iranian Navy on 24 November 1986 while carrying cargo for the warmongering regime of Iraq.

Communique No 2,702

LD311615 Tehran IRNA in English 1538 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 31, IRNA — Artillery fire of Iranian Gendarmerie forces destroyed 12 Iraqi gun emplacements and observation posts as well as a bulldozer in Bayat operational region Tuesday and Wednesday killing a number of enemy soldiers, said a military communique here Wednesday.

Joint Staff Communique No 2,702 said that Iranian Muslim forces carried out nine successful patrol missions inside Iraqi defensive areas in Sardasht, Hajj 'Umran, and Marivan operational regions Tuesday and returned safely to bases.

Movement of an Iraqi motorized column in Marivan operational region was halted as it was targeted by Iranian fire, and sustained some damage. It was forced to change course, said the communique.

Some Iraqi gun emplacements were set afire and a considerable number of enemy soldiers were killed or wounded during exchange of artillery fire in Bakhtaran and Ilam operational regions, the communique said.

According to the communique timely Iranian anti-aircraft fire checked and halted reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters over Qasr-e Shirin, Khosravi, Naft-e Shahr, and Mehran regions Tuesday.

Exchange of artillery fire in southern fronts was somewhat more intense in Zeyd operational region, where enemy fire was silenced and several Iraqi heavy engineering vehicles in Yabis destroyed, the communique said. Engineering operations of Iraqi troops in eastern Basra were also disrupted, it added.

In northwestern fronts a number of Iraqi bunkers were destroyed and their fire silenced when enemy positions came under Iranian fire on Tuesday, said the communique.

Communique No 2,703

LD011704 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 1 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 1, IRNA — Iraqi war planes twice bombed suburban areas and a township of Gilan-e Gharb, Bakhtaran Province, at 12:50 GMT Wednesday and again at 08:40 GMT Thursday, inflicting damage on farms and villages. Some heads of live stocks were also killed in the enemy air raids, said a military communique here Thursday.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2,703 also said that intruding Iraqi aircraft dropped chemical bombs in parts of the western fronts, including a field hospital at 08:00 and 11:00 GMT Wednesday, inflicting injuries on several Muslim combatants with toxic gases. The chemically injured combatants were immediately given medical treatment.

A large number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and at least 60 enemy gun emplacements and observation posts together with one munitions dump were destroyed throughout the fronts in artillery duels with Iranian forces on Wednesday. Some enemy vehicles were also damaged by Iranian artillery fire.

In the northwestern fronts, Iranian forces reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions on Wednesday inflicting heavy casualties on enemy troops and setting ablaze 15 gun emplacements of theirs.

Exchange of fire continued in the western fronts Wednesday racing somewhat more heavily in Sumar as a result of which some

enemy soldiers were killed or wounded and 25 gun emplacements and observation posts and one munitions dump of theirs were destroyed.

The communique said that Iranian Gendarmerie forces reconnoitered enemy positions in Dehloran and maintained their firepower superiority over Iraqi troops in other western border fronts Wednesday destroying 20 Iraqi gun emplacements and observation posts and damaging some enemy vehicles.

Movement of Iraqi vehicle columns in Kani-Sheykh as well as reconnaissance flights of enemy helicopters in Qasr-e Shirin were checked.

Iranian artillery fire prevented Iraqi infantrymen from carrying out any operations in Chananeh, Hoseyniyeh, and Nahr-e Anbar operational regions, southern fronts, on Wednesday, concluded the communique.